(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons assigned by the US Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government would take up the issue with the subsidies and countervailing measures Committee of the WTO for extending the transition period to allow the Indian products to gain export competitiveness; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Textiles is not aware of any threat by U.S. Government to impose anti-subsidy and countervailing duties on all Indian textiles and apparel products. The US has however filed a formal request to the WTO Secretariat to determine "Export Competitiveness" of textiles and apparel items covered under HS Chapters 50 to 59 and 61 to 63 in accordance with Article 27.6(b) of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM).

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

1535. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to extend the existing subsidy on foreign loan under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the subsidy that Government is proposing to give to the textile units;

(c) the details of textile centres in the country; State-wise; and

(d) the grant that the Union Government are giving to textile centres under Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme, centre-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) In order to make available loans to textile industries at international interest rates Government has introduced w.e.f. 1.4.99 Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

(TUFS). In respect of Foreign Currency Loan (FCL) this Scheme provides for following options:—

(i) coverage of exchange rate fluctuation not exceeding 5% per annum from the base rate since the launch of the scheme (1.4.99);

(ii) the cost of forward cover premium for foreign currency loan under TUFS limited to 5% per annum on the base rate of exchange as on option (in lieu of 5% exchange rate fluctuation coverage), which may be exercised only once in the each financial year of the project;

(c) and (d) Government has launched the "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)" for plugging critical infrastructure gaps in traditional textile/apparel clusters to help the units located therein to become globally competitive. The scheme aims at removing bottlenecks in exports so as to achieve the target of US$ 50 billion by 2010 as envisaged in the National Textile Policy, 2000. Under this Scheme, Central assistance will be subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 crore for a particular centre, and it would is available to the extent of 100% of the critical components of the project in respect of Common Effluent Treatment Plant, improving water supply and drainage facilities and construction of creche buildings for apparel units. The other components would be funded on 75:25 basis between centre and states/reputed agencies concerned. Under TCIDS, 24 centers have been identified for purpose of filling critical gaps in infrastructure. Their state-wise list is furnished in statement.

Statement-I

The state-wise List of Centres identified under TCIDS for filling critical gaps in infrastructure

1. Tamilnadu
   1) Tirupur
   2) Coimbatore
   3) Karur
   4) Salem-Erode
   5) Chennai
2. Karnataka
   6) Bangalore,

3. NCT Delhi-Uttar Pradesh-Haryana
   7) Delhi-Noida-Gurgaon

4. Haryana
   8) Panipat

5. Punajb
   9) Ludhiana
   10) Amritsar

6. Gujarat
   11) Ahmedabad
   12) Surat

7. Maharashtra

   13) Mumbai
   14) Bhiwandi
   15) Ichalkaranjee
   16) Solapur
   17) Malegaon

8. Madhya-Pradesh
   18) Burhanpur

9. Uttar Pradesh
   19) Varanasi-Mau
   20) Meerut-Pilakhua

10. West Bengal
    21) Kolkata

11. Kerala
    22) Cannannor

12. Himachal Pradesh
    23) Baddi

13. Rajasthan
    24) Bhilwara